

SAUDI ARABIA | IN FOCUS

A WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE INFORMATION OFFICE OF
THE ROYAL EMBASSY OF SAUDI ARABIA IN WASHINGTON, DC

JUNE 28, 2011

COUNTERTERRORISM**Special court begins hearings against 85 accused terrorists**

A specialized criminal court began hearings on June 26 for 85 people accused of joining Al-Qaeda and working in a cell led by the deceased Turki Al-Dandani. The accused are charged with numerous crimes, including attacking and killing security personnel, citizens and expatriates; possession of explosive materials, missiles and other weapons; aiding fugitives; recruiting and training for Al-Qaeda; distributing Al-Qaeda propaganda; illegal fundraising; illicit arms trading; forgery; and armed robbery.

Thirteen of the accused are charged with involvement in the May 12, 2003 terrorist attack on three residential complexes in Riyadh in the neighborhoods of Gharnata, Ashbailia and Janadriyah, resulting in the death and injury of 129 people. Several defendants are accused of plotting attacks against military facilities, residential complexes, and oil installations.

FOREIGN AID**Kingdom provides millions in aid to Egypt**

A loan agreement and a memorandum of understanding (MOU) were signed in Cairo on June 21 by Deputy President and Managing Director of the Saudi Development Fund (SDF) Yousuf Al-Bassam and Egyptian Minister of Electricity Dr. Hassan Yunus. The loan will finance a power generation plant project in Banha at the cost of about \$50 million to be repaid over 30 years with a five-year grace period and a 2 percent annual interest rate. The MOU outlined the SDF's contributions to a three-pronged Egyptian development program. The assistance will include: a donation of \$200 million to finance small and medium-sized enterprises; \$500 million in loans for development projects to be repaid over 30 years with a five-year grace period and a 2 percent interest rate; and the funding of Saudi non-oil exports to Egypt at a cost of \$750 million.

SDF delivers medical equipment to flood victims in Pakistan

The Saudi Development Fund (SDF) delivered assistance for flood victims in Pakistan on June 22. The aid, channeled through the World Health Organization (WHO), included medical equipment, medication, ambulances and medical service vehicles. The handover took place at the regional headquarters of the WHO in Islamabad. In a statement, SDF Representative Abdullah Al-Shuaybi said

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"An agreement was signed with the WHO to provide a grant worth \$9,554,889 in assistance for Pakistani flood victims ... Today, we have handed over to them 26 ambulances and 20 medical service vehicles, in addition to a number of diversified medical appliances. This is part of Saudi Arabia's grant of \$100 million to assist Pakistani victims, including those displaced as a result of military operations or natural catastrophes. This is the first medical consignment of the grant."

Earlier, the Saudi Embassy in Islamabad provided 150 tons of dates as a gift from the Kingdom to the people of Pakistan during a ceremony on June 21.

Saudi Arabia approves \$20 million loan to Mauritania

The Kingdom has approved a loan of \$20 million from the Saudi Development Fund (SDF) to Mauritania, to assist in the field of food security. During a meeting in Nouakchott on June 21, Saudi Ambassador to Mauritania Saud Al-Jabri gave the approval letter to Mauritanian Minister of Economic Affairs and Development Dr. Sidi Ould Altah.

Indonesia's president inaugurates Saudi-funded developmental projects

Indonesian President Dr. Al-Hajji Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono inaugurated a number of Saudi-funded developmental projects worth more than \$6.4 million in Pakassi, a suburb of Jakarta, on June 27. The projects included the King Abdullah Endowment Building; the King Abdullah University Premises at the Mohammed Nasser Higher Institute for Dawa in Pakassi; the Princess Nora bint Abdulrahman Al-Saud Center for Dawa, Education and Humanitarian Works in Jakarta; the King Abdullah Library at the headquarters of the Supreme Council for Islamic Call in Indonesia; the Printing Press Project; and the Callers Training Courses Project.

LOCAL EVENT

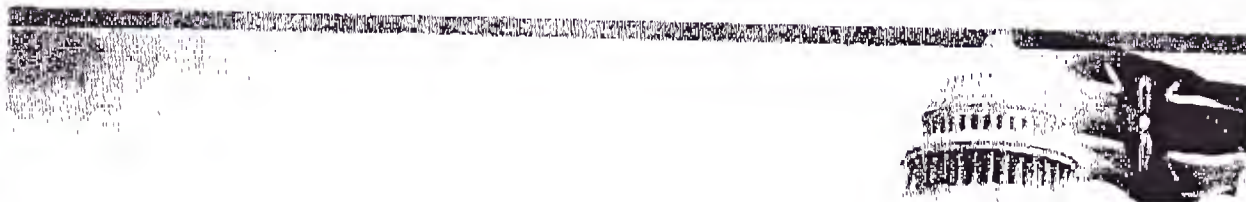
Islamic Saudi Academy in Washington graduates 46 students

The Islamic Saudi Academy in Washington held its 22nd graduation ceremony on June 25, comprised of 46 students from Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Yemen, Tunisia, Afghanistan, Palestine and the United States. Addressing the ceremony on behalf of Saudi Ambassador to the United States Adel A. Al-Jubeir, the Saudi Cultural Attaché in Washington and Deputy Chairman of the Academy's Board of Directors, Dr. Mohammed Al-Eisa, commended the achievements of the Academy, which joined the latest graduating class with the International Baccalaureate (IB) Program.

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Anjali Reddy

From: Anjali Reddy
Sent: Wednesday, June 29, 2011 1:24 PM
Subject: Kenyan journalist Fauma Noor named CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2011
Attachments: image001.png

**Kenyan journalist Fauma Noor named CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2011**

June 29, 2011

Kenyan journalist Fauma Noor was awarded the top prize in the CNN MultiChoice African Journalist 2011 Awards held June 25 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Noor, a reporter for *The Star Kenya*, won the prestigious General News Award for best print story for her investigative three-part series on Somalia's Al Shabaab militant group.

Her series highlights the growing and alarming trend of young Somali men returning to their home country to take up arms and fight for the radical Islamist group Al Shabaab. Noor's entry bested more than 1,400 others from 42 countries across the African continent.

To read the full CNN article, please [click here](#).

For more information, please contact Anjali Reddy at (202) 777-3508 or areddy@clsdc.com.

This material is distributed by Chlopak, Leonard, Schechter & Associates on behalf of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kenya. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

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